



Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

Division of Tennessee State Parks, Bureau of Parks and Conservation

Junior Ranger Program Assistant

Salary: \$10.00-\$13.00/Hour

About the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)

The department is responsible for:

- Safeguarding the health and safety of Tennessee citizens from environmental hazards;
- Protecting and improving the quality of Tennessee's land, air, and water, and
- Managing the system of 56 Tennessee State Parks and 85 Natural Areas

TDEC has approximately 2,900 employees working across Tennessee supported by a total budget of more than \$300 million with funding from dedicated fees and state parks revenue, federal sources, and the state general fund. The department is the chief environmental and natural resource regulatory agency in Tennessee with delegated responsibility from the U.S. EPA to regulate sources of air pollution, radiological health issues, solid and hazardous waste, underground storage tanks, water pollution, water supply, and groundwater pollution. TDEC has eight (8) regional offices across the state serving as the primary point of contact for their respective regions.

Summary & Distinguishing Features

The Junior Ranger Program Assistant is a seasonal position that provides educational outreach, working with schools, community groups and organizations, teaching outdoor skills, organizing and supporting special events, and planning and implementing programs to support all state parks. Specific tasks may include guided tours, hikes, workshops, canoe floats, slide shows, children's programs, campfires and other outdoor activities. This position has a variable work schedule, including weekends and holidays. The position will be located at the Department of Environment and Conservation Central Office in Nashville, TN. Extensive travel is required and may include overnights in specific state parks. This position may also be appropriate for internship credit.

Duties and Essential Functions

Junior Ranger Program Assistant's primary responsibilities include:

- Providing interpretive programs

- Resource management activities
- General administrative tasks

Competencies

- Personality and communication skills conducive to work in public service required
- Must be comfortable working with children
- Candidate must be a self-starter and able to complete tasks with minimal supervision
- Sound knowledge or willingness to learn about the natural and cultural history of Tennessee
- Strong writing skills to execute work assignments, complete reports, generate interpretive program outlines, develop schedules, maintain records, and respond to requests for park information
- A valid vehicle operator license required
- Desirable but not required certifications: CPR, Advanced First Aid, or First Responder
- Good physical condition: ability to do much hiking, climbing and carrying; ability to perform responsibly under emergency situations

Qualifications

At a minimum, the applicant must be a junior in an accredited college or university by credit hours working toward an undergraduate degree in general life sciences, forestry, wildlife, geology, geography, history, park administration, anthropology/archaeology, environmental science, natural resource-based recreation, or related field. College degree preferred. Coursework in environmental education, outdoor leadership and/or wilderness skills is supportive and desirable but not mandatory.

If selected for an interview, the applicant is required to have a copy of his current college/university transcript and a completed State of Tennessee employment application. Candidates appointed must pass a criminal background check. Position will remain open until filled.

All interested candidates should submit resume and cover letter to:

Katie Wisniewski – 615-532-0015 – katie.wisniewski@tn.gov

For additional information contact:

Laura Franklin, Program Manager
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Tennessee State Parks
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